



Peru State College  
**CJUS 308 Community-Based Corrections**  
Syllabus – Spring – 2010

**Instructor:** Dr. Douglas Devaney  
**Office Hours:** 10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. on T & R or by appointment  
**Office Telephone:** (402)872-2397  
**Email Address:** ddevaney@peru.edu  
**Course Meets:** 8:00 A.M. – 9:15 A.M. M & W

**Required Textbook:** Alarid, L. F. & Del Carmen, R. V. (2011). *Community-Based Corrections*. (8<sup>th</sup> ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning

**Required Software:** Internet access and access to Microsoft WORD.

### **Course Description & Objectives**

This course focuses on correctional processes and strategies regarding probation, parole, juveniles, diversion, and other innovative approaches applied in a community setting.

Prerequisites: CJus 110

Upon completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Communicate both verbally and in writing in a professional and scholarly manner.
2. Demonstrate adequate understanding of fundamental practices and strategies in community-based correctional environments.
3. Demonstrate adequate understanding of the various components of the community-based corrections system, including probation, parole, and various intermediate sanction and community programs, as well as the interconnectedness of these components.
4. Demonstrate adequate understanding of community supervision processes, terminology, techniques and technology, and theories.
5. Demonstrate adequate understanding of intermediate sanctioning strategies and tools used in community corrections.
6. Demonstrate understanding of the history and development of community-based corrections strategies and programs.

At the beginning of the course, we will discuss how these objectives fit into the College's and School's mission and goals.

## **Expectations & Instructional Approach**

Classes will include required reading and writing assignments involving community-based corrections issues, as well as some discussion and debate of policies and practices within the system. Students are required to participate in these discussions and read the text and any assigned materials. PowerPoint presentations, lecture, handouts, and other delivery methods may be utilized in the course at the discretion of the instructor to assist students in developing and enhancing knowledge of fundamental concepts and issues and the critical thinking skills needed for assessing policies and practices. Course content is designed to allow students to gain a greater depth of understanding about community-based corrections programs and strategies. Students will develop an understanding of the interconnected nature of community-based corrections and other components of the criminal justice system.

Attendance and participation are vital to the learning experience. Consequently, I expect you to be at each class having read the material and ready to participate in the day's discussions and exercises. Please be in class on time. In order to foster a climate conducive to learning, please join me in treating your classmates with respect. I encourage students to ask questions, seek my help when they need it, and help their classmates understand the material. It is vital to be prepared for each class and students are expected to turn off cell phones and other devices while in class. Use of laptop computers or other devices is prohibited during class times and students are expected to take notes and have text and other course materials with them for each class. Food is prohibited in class.

## **Assessment and Grading**

Students are expected to gain passing scores in each of the following assessment and grading categories.

### Class Attendance and Participation:

Students may be assigned weekly readings from the text and other sources at the discretion of the instructor. All students are expected to critique and provide commentary on assigned topics. Students are expected to use critical thinking skills and demonstrate adequate preparation for discussion and debate. All students are expected to clearly articulate viewpoints on topics and issues of discussion and provide evidentiary support and rationale for their position in discussions. Students are expected to complete weekly assignments associated with the class project and be able to provide evidence of progress to the instructor at any time. Students failing to consistently demonstrate this preparation risk having points deducted from their grade based on inadequate participation in the course. Class participation accounts for 10% of the final grade.

### Weekly Assignments:

Weekly assignments include reading and quizzes at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be given frequent quizzes, usually about one a week based on reading assignments and lecture notes. Quizzes are usually multiple-choice or true or false format. Students will also have required project associated tasks to complete each week. Further information will be provided regarding project requirements in class. These quizzes account for 20% of the final grade.

### Project:

Each student will be required to participate in a 8-12 week probation scenario in which you are assigned a person to supervise on probation (simulation). You will mimic real world supervision and are required to make some outside contacts with your assigned probationer. This is a simulation and the assigned probationer is not restricted in a real sense, though you will monitor the person and maintain a case file. **It must be made clear to anyone observing any mock probation interview or scenario that it is a class exercise. Do not perform any action that would shock or frighten anyone and NEVER touch the probationer or follow him/her around campus.** You will be given further details on case file format, supervision standards, and how to perform a variety of supervision tasks during the first weeks of class. The project requires weekly participation in and outside of class and will account for 25% of the final grade.

### Exams:

Midterm and Final exams will be given based on text and lecture material. Midterm is worth 20% and Final is worth 25% of final grade. All students are required to complete a proctored final exam, which is comprehensive. Quizzes throughout the semester are used as review and preparation for these exams, which will be derived mainly from quiz material. Students are expected to take these exams when scheduled and need prior approval from the instructor to alter scheduling.

### Late Assignment Policy:

Late coursework is generally unacceptable in this course. All work should be submitted by the assigned times and dates.

### Grading Scale

Your final grade will be based upon culminated scores of the capstone paper and presentation, final examination, quiz scores, and participation. The grading scale is:

Quizzes=20%, Midterm exam=20% Final exam=25%, project=25%, participation=10% for a total of 100%.

**Please note a grade of “C” is required for CJ majors to pass this course.**

## College's Incomplete Coursework Policy

To designate a student's work in a course as incomplete at the end of a term, the instructor records the incomplete grade (I). Students may receive this grade only when serious illness, hardship, death in the immediate family, or military service during the semester in which they are registered prevents them from completing course requirements. In addition, to receive an incomplete, a student must have completed substantially all of the course's major requirements.

Unless extenuating circumstances dictate otherwise, students must initiate requests for an incomplete by filling out an Incomplete Grade Completion Contract, which requires the signature of the student, instructor, and Dean. The Incomplete Grade Completion contract cites the reason(s) for the incomplete and details the specific obligations the student must meet to change the incomplete to a letter grade. The date by which the student agrees to complete required work must appear in the contract. The Dean, the instructor, and the student receive signed copies of the Incomplete Grade Completion Contract.

Even if the student does not attend Peru State College, all incomplete course work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester. Unless the appropriate Dean approves an extension and if the student does not fulfill contract obligations in the allotted time, the incomplete grade automatically becomes an F.

## College's Academic Integrity Policy

The College expects all students to conduct themselves in a manner that supports an honest assessment of student learning outcomes and the assignment of grades that appropriately reflect student performance. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and comply with instructions regarding the completion of assignments, exams, and other academic activities. At a minimum, students should assume that at each assessment opportunity they are expected to do their own original academic work and/or clearly acknowledge in an appropriate fashion the intellectual work of others, when such contributions are allowed. Students helping others to circumvent honest assessments of learning outcomes, or who fail to report instances of academic dishonesty, are also subject to the sanctions defined in this policy.

Instances of academic dishonesty may be discovered in a variety of ways. Faculty members who assign written work ordinarily check citations for accuracy, run data base and online checks, and/or may simply recognize familiar passages that are not cited. They may observe students in the act of cheating or may become aware of instances of cheating from the statements of others. All persons who observe or otherwise know about instances of cheating are expected to report such instances to the proper instructor or Dean.

In order to promote academic integrity, the College subscribes to an electronic service to review papers for the appropriate citations and originality. Key elements of submitted papers are stored electronically in a limited access database and thus become a permanent part of the material to which future submissions are compared. Submission of an application and continued enrollment signifies your permission for this use of your written work.

NSCS Board of Trustees Policy 4220 states that each College “. . . will establish a distance learning assessment policy that will include, at a minimum, a substantial culminating experience that is proctored.” Peru State College’s policy is that each course that is offered entirely online will feature a proctored final exam that substantially measures the extent the course’s stated learning objectives are achieved. Online course syllabi will clearly state that, regardless of grades earned previously, the proctored final exam must be passed in order to receive credit for the course. Courses which feature graded site-based activities (e.g., teaching demonstrations) and/or video-taped presentations that occur near the end of the term, and that are designed to substantially assess the achievement of learning objectives, can be considered in compliance with this policy. Project-based capstone and graduate courses utilizing real-time discussions held by web-cam, phone or in person with the faculty member as part of the assessment process can also be considered in compliance with this policy.

Should an occurrence of academic misconduct occur, the faculty member may assign a failing grade for the assignment or a failing grade for the course. Each incident of academic misconduct should be reported to the Dean and the Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA). The VPAA may suspend students for two semesters found to be responsible for multiple instances of academic dishonesty. The reason for the suspension will be noted on the student’s transcript.

A faculty member need present only basic evidence of academic dishonesty. There is no requirement for proof of intent. Students are responsible for understanding these tenets of academic honesty and integrity. Students may appeal penalties for academic dishonesty using the process established for grades appeals.

### **Title IX Compliance Notice**

Peru State College is an equal opportunity institution. PSC does not discriminate against any student, employee or applicant on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or age in employment and education opportunities, including but not limited to admission decisions. The College has designated an

individual to coordinate the College's nondiscrimination efforts to comply with regulations implementing Title VI, VII, IX, and Section 504. Inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies and practices may be directed to Eulanda Cade, Director of Human Resources, Title VI, VII, IX Compliance Coordinator, Peru State College, PO Box 10, Peru, NE 68421-0010, (402) 872-2230.

Students requesting reasonable accommodation and tutoring services should contact the Center for Achievement and Transition Services (CATS).

### Tentative Course Schedule

| <b>COURSE CHANGES AND SCHEDULE:</b> The instructor reserves the right to make changes in the course, and any changes will be communicated to students in advance. |  |
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| <b>Week</b>   | <b>Topic</b>   |
| 1   | Chapter 1 An Overview of Community Corrections<br>Project Assignment Overview  |
| 2   | Chapter 2 Pretrial Release and Diversion<br>Project Assignment Handout<br>Quiz 1 and 2(possible)   |
| 3   | Chapter 3 Sentencing and the Presentence<br>Investigation Report<br>Project Assignment check   |
| 4   | Chapter 4 How Probation Developed<br>Quiz 3-4  |
| 5   | Chapter 5 Classification and Supervision   |
| 6   | Chapter 6 The Career Pathway<br>Quiz 5-6   |
| 7   | Chapter 7 Probation Modification and Termination<br>Midterm Review   |
| 8   | Midterm<br>Chapter 8 Residential Community Supervision<br>Programs   |
| 9   | Chapter 9 Nonresidential Community Supervision s<br>Quiz 8-9   |
| 10  | Chapter 10 Economic and Restorative Justice<br>Reparations   |
| 11  | Chapter 11 The History of Parole<br>Project check  |
| 12  | Chapter 12 Preparing for Prisoner Reentry<br>Quiz 10-12<br>Project will be required completed between 8-12<br>weeks from assignment start with one class day<br>notice (Be prepared) |
| 13  | Chapter 13 Parole Conditions and Revocation  |
| 14  | Chapter 14 Juvenile Justice<br>Quiz 13-14  |
| 15  | Chapter 15 Collateral Consequences of Conviction,<br>Pardon, and Restoration of Rights<br>Final exam Prep  |
| 16  | Final Exam   |